

WorkFirst High Performance Bonus

Innovative Project

2002 Nomination Form

Name of project (use separate form for each nomination): Spokane LPA Client Brochure

Local Planning Area: Spokane/Lincoln County LPA

Contact: Nancy Wolke, CSOA Spokane Valley CSO

Telephone:

E-mail:

Project period (only projects operating between July 1, 2001 and June 30, 2002 will be considered): July 1, 2001- June 30, 2002

An interagency committee with state and local participation will review your nomination. Please keep your submission to 3 pages of narrative -- the nomination packet must not exceed 3 pages of narrative plus the signature page. Let us know if additional materials, such as marketing tools, newspaper clippings, evaluations, etc. are available upon request. We may request this information before making a final decision on the bonus.

1.	<p>Describe your project. (This section will be scored as 25% of the total points awarded.) You may want to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this project relate to the WorkFirst performance measures? • How many persons were served during SFY2002? Please list TANF and low-income persons separately. • If known, what was the cost per person served including operating and administrative costs? • What TANF purpose does this project address? The four purposes of TANF are on the WorkFirst website under Local Area Planning/ High Performance Bonus Awards/Expenditure Criteria at http://www.wa.gov/WORKFIRST/local/hpbacriteria.htm
	<p>The Spokane LPA was concerned about the return rates to TANF and back in January 2001 through March 2001 all three Spokane CSOs performed a client survey of all TANF applicants/returnees to see what the reasons were they were applying or re-applying for TANF. There were over 800 families surveyed in the time period. The LPA used the data to determine that there was a great need for families leaving TANF to receive information about benefits and resources in the community that would help support them remaining off of TANF. A large percentage of returning families were unfamiliar with eligibility criteria for such things as Medicaid coverage, childcare subsidies and resources in the community for emergency assistance. The Spokane LPA decided to use the bonus award from 2000-2001 to put together a client brochure to be given out to all exiting TANF recipients. A workgroup made up of several LPA members and current TANF recipients, was formed to compile the brochure, design and print 4000 copies.</p>
2.	<p>What makes this project innovative? (This section will be scored as 50% of the total points awarded.) You may want to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What need was addressed and for what population? • How was the project designed? • What impact was desired? • Was there a client focus? Employer focus? • What has been learned? • Did this project simplify the program or its operations? • How did you measure the success of this project?
	<p>The return to TANF rate was over 20% for the winter months in 2000-2001. After conducting a client survey for the first three months in 2001, the LPA decided to use the bulk of the \$7000 bonus monies to design, print and distribute the client brochures. The brochure was intended to raise the awareness of community resources and available DSHS benefits that would assist former TANF clients with needs that, left unaddressed, would often cause the families to re-apply for TANF. The brochure was given to all exiting TANF families beginning in July 2001. TANF return rates dipped below 15% for a few months following the distribution of the brochure.</p>
3.	<p>Partnerships. (This section will be scored as 25% of the total points awarded.) You may want to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What partners were involved in the design of this project? • What partners supported this program in ways that contributed to its success? • Did you bring in new partners for this project?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did you add new resources—funds, person power, other-in-kind contributions? • Did this project strengthen existing partnerships?
	<p>The LPA committee formed a small workgroup to design the brochure. The workgroup was made up of members from DSHS, ESD, Community Colleges of Spokane, Division of Child Support, and Goodwill Industries and WPLEX. We also obtained state office approval to use a local vendor for design and production of the brochure. TANF client volunteers were actively involved in pulling together a long list of community resources. Distribution of the brochure was primarily done through DSHS, but all partners mentioned helped distribute them as well. Other LPA groups have asked for information on how the Spokane LPA achieved this task. All the LPA members felt the endeavor was a success and great at strengthening the partnerships.</p>

Are additional materials available upon request? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Please email this form and mail or FAX an additional page with the signatures of the mandatory partners in your Local Planning Area. All partners must agree to nominate this project.

Nominations are due by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 15, 2002 to:

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